

NOMINATION # 03-22
(To Be Completed By The 100 Club Staff)

100 Club NOMINATION

Nominating Agency: Houston Fire Department 1205 Dart, 77007
(Name) (Address)

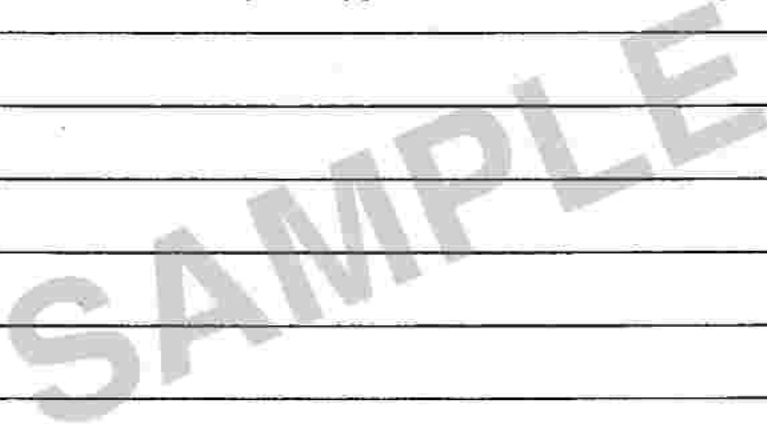
Nominating Firefighter: JAY S. EVANS 913-865-4523
(Print Name and Rank) (Work Phone) (Fax Number)

Firefighter Of The Year [] Rookie Of The Year [] Lifetime Achievement []
(MARK ONE)

NOMINEE: Mendel Calvin Sr. Capt. Yes [] No []
(Last Name) (First Name) (Rank) (Can Take Picture)

Nominee's supervisor: _____ Work Phone # _____

ATTACH OR WRITE A DETAILED NARRATIVE OF THE INCIDENT SURROUNDING THE NOMINATION. (No supportive documentation please.)



ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NEEDED

Nominator's Signature: Jay Evans Date: 12/12/03
Agency Head Signature: Chetan Turiso Date: 12/11/03

03-22

Sr. Captain Calvin Mendel

About 25 years ago, the department started the "Child Find" Program to try and end the high fatality rate among children. The results, a sticker created to be placed on the window of children's bedrooms, set against a white background it depicts a firefighter holding a little girl in his arms. The Public now has the means to assist firefighters arriving at a scene, alerted by the dramatic sticker on the window they know where to begin their search. The firefighter selected to pose for this graphic was Calvin Mendel.

Mendel began his career with busy Station 8, in June of 1968, and throughout his service has continually served at some of the City's busiest stations. In early 1980, he was asked by Fire Chief Rogers to remodel Old Station 7 for the museum. He eagerly took on this challenge, and doing a great deal of the work himself, he managed to turn the old station on Milam into the Houston Fire Museum of today. He continues to play an active role with the fire museum, by being a trustee on the Museum's Board.

These invaluable contributions did not stop Mendel from his main career goal - "to make the job easier and safer for the 'front-line troops.'" Mendel initiated the fire tactics classes that were offered to volunteer and paid fire departments, as well as chemical plant workers, hospital staff and shipboard personnel. He lead the testing and wrote the criteria for the Thermal Imaging Cameras. He worked with Scott Aviation to make a national training video for the TIC which lead to his designing the course and writing the criteria for the only heat stress test in the world formulated solely for firefighters. In addition to these accomplishments, he was instrumental in the design and production of the Bell-cuff gloves now used by firefighters, as well as, helping designing the voice transmitters and HFD gear evaluations. He also assisted in designing and constructing the flashover chambers at the Val Jahnke Training Academy.

"I have always loved these firefighters and will always love them. I am extremely proud to have been allowed to stand beside them in the field and to be counted as one of them in the stations," said Mendel. As busy as all of these achievements would dictate, Mendel was among the first to volunteer to be an instructor for the Citizens Fire Academy, where he has gained high marks with its members as well.